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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4320

March 20, 2002

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES
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EMPOWERMENT, AND GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON REGULATORY REFORM
AND OVERSIGHT
TEXAS REGIONAL WHIP

The Honorable Peter Visclosky
United States House of Representatives
2313 Rayburn HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Peter:

We are writing to request your assistance on three projects of great importance to our constituents. First, the San Antonio River Authority is in great need of \$4 million to complete the San Antonio River Channel Improvements project (SACIP). The money would be used to (1) complete flood damage repairs on the San Antonio River from the flood of October 1998; (2) complete flood plain mapping and hydraulic performance studies on the remainder of the San Antonio River and its tributaries; (3) begin design and construction on unit 852 of the SACIP, the section of the San Antonio River; and (4) complete the on-going General Re-evaluation Study (GRR) on the San Antonio River addressing environmental restoration and recreation opportunities along the San Antonio River. Over the next ten years, Bexar County and the City of San Antonio will commit more than \$90 million of local funding toward the project. A campaign to secure private sector contributions to the project is also underway. Over the life of the project it is anticipated that the federal investment will be more than \$30 million.

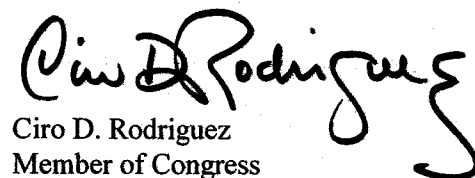
In addition, we would like to ask for your help in securing \$800,000 to complete on-going feasibility investigations of flood control, ecosystem restoration and water supply needs within the major watersheds in Bexar County including the Cibolo Creek, Salado Creek, Leon Creek, and Medina River, which all experienced flooding in 1998. These studies are essential to support local initiatives to address flooding issues on a regional basis and avoid future loss of life and property.

And finally, we would like to ask for your assistance in securing \$250,000 for the San Antonio River Authority to assist local governments in Goliad, Karnes, and Wilson counties to update Flood Insurance Rate Maps within their jurisdictions.

Thank you for assistance on this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact us personally should you have any additional questions or concerns.

Sincerely,


Charles A. Gonzalez
Member of Congress


Ciro D. Rodriguez
Member of Congress